

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A lighting system provided with a light-emitting panel comprising

a front wall, a rear wall situated opposite thereto, and furthermore, between the front and the rear wall, a first edge surface and, opposite thereto, a second edge surface,

the first edge surface being light-transmitting,

while at least a first light source is associated with the first edge surface, and

while, in operation, light originating from the first light source is incident on the first edge surface and distributes itself in the panel,

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over a widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards the

second edge surface, and

wherein the rear wall is provided over the widening section with a multiplicity of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall,--and

wherein the surface of the second edge surface is specularly or diffusely reflecting or is provided specularly or diffusely reflecting material, and

wherein the ratio of the surface area S_1 of the first edge surface and the largest cross section S_{1cs} in the light-emitting panel substantially parallel to the first edge surface satisfies the relation:

$$1 < \frac{S_{1cs}}{S_1} < 10 .$$

Claim 2 (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A lighting system as claimed in ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the ratio S_{1cs}/S_1 satisfies the relation:

$$1.5 < \frac{S_{1cs}}{S_1} < 3 .$$

Claims 4-6 (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a further surface of the steps makes an angle β with respect to a normal on the front wall, wherein $-48 \leq \beta \leq 48^\circ$.

8. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the angle β is in the range $0 \leq \beta \leq 48^\circ$.

9. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front wall is provided with a translucent diffuser.

10. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light-emitting panel comprises between the widening section and the second edge surface a light guide part providing bi-directional light extraction.

11. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the rear wall of the light-emitting panel at the bi-directional light extracting light guide part is provided with a structure to extract light by disrupting total internal reflection locally.

12. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the structure on the rear wall at the bi-directional light extracting light guide part is formed by a multitude of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall.

13. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light source comprises one white LED or at least two light-emitting diodes with different light emission wavelengths.

14. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 13, wherein each of the light-emitting diodes has a luminous flux of at least 5 lm.

15. (Previously Presented) A display device provided with a lighting system as claimed in claim 1.

16. (Original) A display device as claimed in claim 13, which display device comprises a liquid crystal display.

17. (Previously Presented) A lighting system provided with a light-emitting panel comprising

a front wall, a rear wall situated opposite thereto, and furthermore, between the front and the rear wall, a first edge surface and, opposite thereto, a second edge surface,

the first edge surface being light-transmitting,

while at least a first light source is associated with the first edge surface, and

while, in operation, light originating from the first light source is incident on the first edge surface and distributes itself in the panel,

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over a widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards the

second edge surface,

wherein the rear wall is provided over the widening section with a multiplicity of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall,

wherein the second edge surface is light-transmitting, a second light source being associated with the second edge surface,

wherein, in operation, light originating from the second light source is incident on the second edge surface and distributes itself in the panel, and

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over from the second edge surface in a direction towards the first edge surface.

18. (Currently Amended) A lighting system provided with a light-emitting panel comprising:

a front wall, a rear wall situated opposite thereto, and furthermore, between the front and the rear wall, a first edge surface and, opposite thereto, a second edge surface,

the first edge surface being light-transmitting,

while at least a first light source is associated with the first edge surface, and

while, in operation, light originating from the first light source is incident on the first edge surface and distributes itself in the panel,

wherein the light-emitting panel widens over a widening section from the first edge surface in a direction towards the second edge surface, ~~and~~

wherein the rear wall is provided over the widening section with a multiplicity of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall, and

wherein the light-emitting panel comprises between the widening section and the second edge surface a light guide part providing bi-direction light extraction.

19. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the rear wall of the light-emitting panel at the bi-direction light extraction light guide part is provided with a structure to extract light by disrupting total internal reflection locally.

20. (Previously Presented) A lighting system as claimed in

claim 19, wherein the structure on the rear wall at the bi-direction light extraction light guide part is formed by a multitude of steps of which a surface facing the front wall is substantially parallel to the front wall.